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ography conditions have appealed to the selfishness of the Portuguese so strongly as to overcome all scruples. The physiographic environment is such that on the one hand agriculture is extremely profitable, while on the other the natives are disinclined to work, and people of other races cannot usually live long. Hence the Portuguese have been led to compel the natives to work as slaves. E. H.

Das deutsche Dorf. R. Mielke. 132 pp., mit 51 Abbildungen im Text.
B. G. Teubner, Leipzig, 1907.

This little volume on the German Village is number 192 of a series which is semi-scientific in character, but is calculated to be of interest to the general public. The author found his task one beset with some difficulties, since those who before him had made the German Village a field for special research were, as he says, students of economics or of architecture. Being a peasant born and having a long acquaintance with village life, is in part the author's claim to fitness for his undertaking, and he has honoured his peasant ancestry in writing so interesting a volume.

We expect the German Villager to have a love for his local environment; and that traveller from other lands who, leaving the beaten track of the mere sight-seer that he may make an acquaintance with unspoiled country and village life, does not have his anticipations of finding things interesting realized, is the traveller with a disposition not to be envied.

In so far as space permits, the author has undertaken to combine the geographical, the historical, the political, and the cultural elements, which have entered into the making of the German Village, in due proportions. In his first few pages we have a consideration of origins, not omitting the information to be found in Tacitus and other writers of the day of early Teutonic migrations and settlements. The belief is expressed that the village of the early day was by no means so compactly built as is now common in most parts of the Empire. The individual units of the village community, which community in itself was long a political unit, were the single and sometimes widely separated settlements, like many of those settlements yet to be found in parts of northwest Germany. How time and circumstances, including the physical environment of the various districts in which the villages are located, including also political and economic changes which have taken place in the years as they have come and gone; how all these have wrought as factors in compacting the village or in determining its present day character and general appearance, are points which are made prominent throughout the work.

Noting the differences in origin, differences in appearance architecturally, differences in territorial extent, including a reference to the fact that villages often have within their bounds a very considerable amount of tillable and forest land, the author comes to a consideration of classification. In this classification we find those named which are made up first, of isolated farms or homes (*Einzelhöfe*); second, those compactly built (*Haufendörfer*); third, hamlets (*Weiler*); fourth, villages which stretch along the public highway, which highway constitutes the one village street (*Strassendörfer*). Keeping prominent this classification, the author proceeds to a consideration of the villages in the several regions of Germany. A section of the book is devoted especially to a consideration of the culture of the villages, covering very briefly that which is meant by the German word "Kultur." Referring to the "Village at the close of the nineteenth century"

its general influence on the course of national life throughout the centuries is observed, but with an expression of regret the author sees in the last forty years a decline of the village in much that through the centuries served to make it so important and so interesting a centre of German life. The illustrations are numerous and are of good character, though small. The literature of the German Village is referred to in a concluding page.

E. L. S.

Patrollers of Palestine. By Haskett Smith. pp. xi, 361. London, Edw. Arnold, 1906.

This book is the work of an English clergyman thoroughly familiar with Palestine. As a contribution to geography it is not especially valuable, but for the student of the Bible it contains much that is of great interest. Mr. Smith was at one time the editor of Murray's *Handbook to Syria and Palestine*; and the flavour of the hand-book pervades the present volume. The author conducts a party of imaginary travellers from Jaffa to Jerusalem, Jericho and the Dead Sea. On the way he describes the scenery, the appearance of the people and villages, the modes of travel, and the difficulties of the past as compared to the comforts of the present. He also endeavours to write a satire upon the tourists of Palestine. Each of the party represents a type; for example: there are the "Enthusiast," the "Matter-of-Fact Man," the "General Nuisance," and others, led by the Sheikh. The latter, alone, is a real person; and one surmises that he is Mr. Wilson, the author of *Peasant Life in the Holy Land*. The other travellers, being always in character, do not seem like real people, and are sometimes tiresome.

The main purpose of the book is to set forth in popular style some of the most important results of recent research in identifying scriptural sites, especially in Jerusalem. This is well done. The reader receives a strong impression of the extraordinary accuracy of the Bible in describing topography and customs. Geographically one of the points worth noting is the description of views. For instance, from the steamer off Jaffa one sees at a glance most of western Palestine from the yellow sand-dunes on the coast, across the coastal plain, green in spring, to the hill-country of Samaria on the north and Judea on the south. Again, from Bethlehem,—the "Fruitful" as it was fittingly called in earlier times,—one looks across the deep "Ghor" where a bit of the Dead Sea is in sight, and sees the hills of Moab, only 25 miles away. When Ruth, the Moabitess, left her home and kindred, and followed Naomi to Bethlehem, she did not go to a far country, as we are apt to think. She probably was still in sight of her native village. "There is a tendency (to quote Mr. Smith) in most persons' minds to imagine everything in connection with this land [Palestine] to be on a very much larger scale than it really is. For example, it would be much more in accordance with the fitness of things if we spoke of 'Mound Moriah' [instead of 'Mount Moriah']; for really the hill on which Solomon built his temple was little more than a mound." Another common misapprehension is corrected in the words of a school-boy, who was told to describe the course of the Jordan river. "The Jordan," so he wrote, "is a river which runs straight down the middle of the map of Palestine; but, if you look at it very closely, it *wiggles about*." The Jordan is emphatically a meandering river, which flows in a terraced channel incised in the soft strata of an alluvial plain. If the "Sheikh" were left to tell his story concisely without the help of his "tribe" of "Patrollers," Mr. Smith's book would attract the thoughtful reader much more than it now does.

E. H.